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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT

TOPIC Gadow-Rossow Air Force Training Grounds

EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	50X1-HUM
DATE OF CONTENT		
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED	13 June 1952
REFERENCES		
PAGES 2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	one ditto
REMARKS		

TO CIA

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- At 8:10 a.m. on 9 April, 24 swept-back wing jet fighters approached from the north and flew over Gadow - Rossow air force training grounds at an altitude of about 300 meters. The aircraft, flying in combat formation, carried a bomb, about one meter long, under each wing. The bombs extended a little forward of the leading edge of the wing. In comparison with auxiliary tanks previously observed on jet fighters, the bombs were carried not as close to the wing and were entirely different in shape. Detonations heard later resembled the noises heard when a bomb carpet was laid. About 20 minutes after the detonations were heard, another formation of about 24 swept-back wing fighters was seen over and around Wittstock airfield. (1)
- After 10 a.m. on 11 April, individual jet bombers were seen flying at altitudes of 5,000 to 6,000 meters. Some of the aircraft were heard but could not be seen. Faint detonations were heard, but no impacts could be identified at the bombing range east of Pretzdorf. The observation tower at the road from Glasquette to Pretzdorf was not occupied. (2)
- On 14 and 15 April, during clear weather and good visibility, it was observed from Wittstock railroad station that formations of six or seven jet bombers practiced bombing, flying at an altitude of about 3,000 meters. Jet fighters, flying in elements of six or seven, circled around each of the remarkably tight flying V-shaped bomber formations. After each bomber formation passed, a heavy detonation was heard from the direction of the target area. (3)
- There was no bombing practices between 19 April and 2 May, and no ground force units arrived during that time at the Wittstock and Dranse railroad stations. (4)
- Between 7:15 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 7 May, 18 jet bombers practiced bombing at the Gadow Rossow target area. From 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on 9 May, flying by jet bombers was observed. At 1 p.m. on 10 May, three jet fighters carrying a bomb under each wing were seen.

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Comments.

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- (1) The information indicates that jet fighters of the 24th Air Army are trained for bombing.

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- (2) Impacts were not observed. [REDACTED]
The bombing range is continuously used by units of the northern bomber division. For arrangement of tank, aircraft and gun dummies in the bombing range area see Annex. The sketch was prepared on the basis of observations made when there was no bombing practice.
- (3) Bombing practices in combination with fighters are reported for the first time. It is believed that the fighters were to practice attacks against bomber formations, while the bombers were to defend themselves against those attacks by flying in very tight formations.
- (4) Between 10 and 17 April, there were 39 shipments of the 18th Wech Division unloaded in the Wittstock area. [REDACTED]

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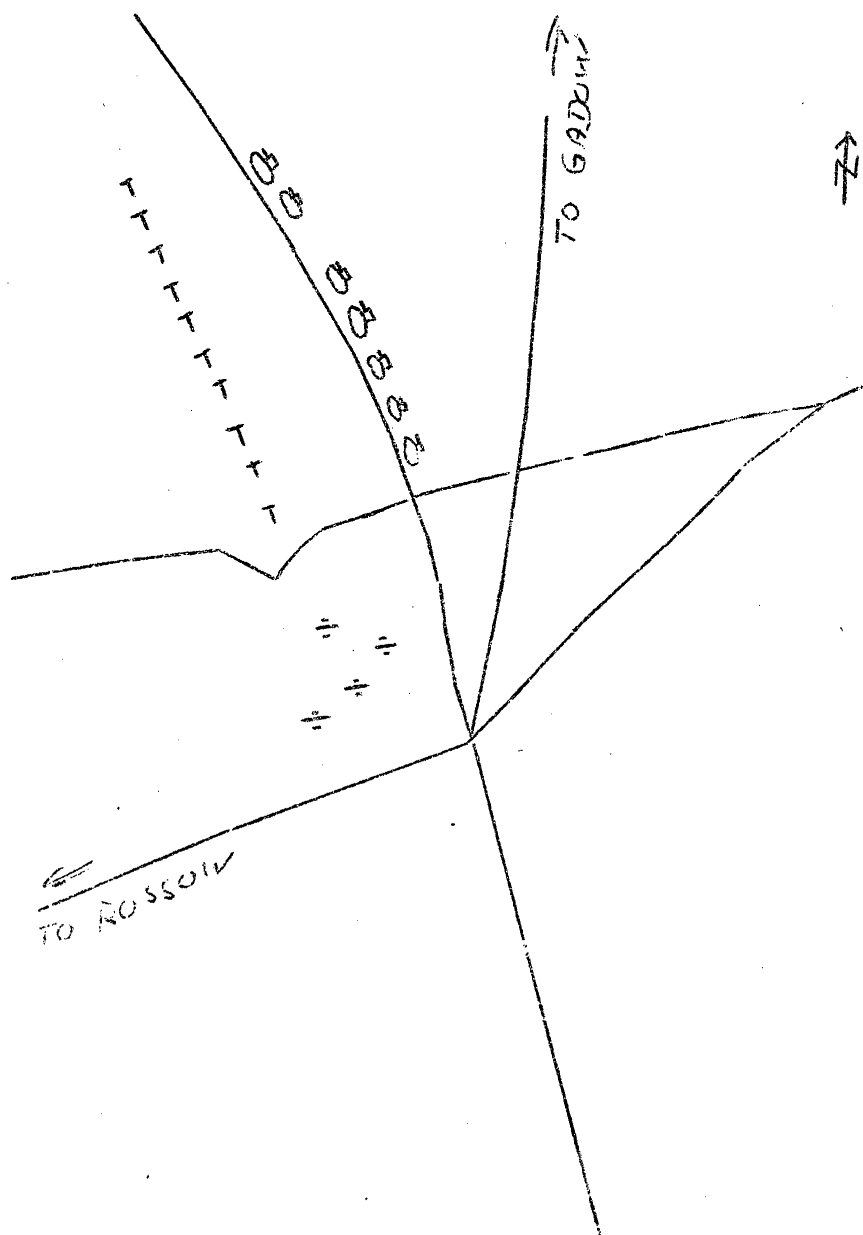
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Annex

Bombing Range Located 4 kilometers East of Fretzdorf



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